

Chris O'Brien

From: Spaziano, Gina (BHDDH) <Gina.Spaziano@bhddh.ri.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 28, 2020 11:03 AM
To: Chris O'Brien
Subject: Eleonor Slater Hospital.

Good Morning,

I am writing in response to the closing of the Regan building and the AM building here at Eleonor Slater Hospital.

First off, it would be a detriment to discharge many of these patient's. Many of our patient's (I am a nurse here at the Regan building) have been here for many years, some, more than 25 years. This is the only family they know, and many of them if taken out of the environment they only know, cannot handle it and decline. I can't tell you, how many patient's we have had that we have discharged and have ultimately died, a few within a week or two. Many of the psych patient's can be a harm to themselves, some a harm to other's. Where are these group homes that they speak of? They are closing them instead of opening additional ones.

Then, the vented patient's, the unit I work on, are so respiratory frail, some can die within minutes if not tended to by a respiratory therapist. They need 24 hour care as well. They too, have been here for many years. We have discharged a couple of patient's to nursing homes (One was Pinegrove) in Pascoag and our vented patient ended up in the hospital with tubes in her lungs. She has never gone out to the hospital while here.

Another matter is the ambulance service. It takes them quite a bit longer to get to the facility then it does here. And....in the winter time with lots of snow on the ground, can they even get to them???

And what about all the people here that will lose their jobs? We are a different union than Zambarano so we cannot go there. It's not our fault that the past administration misappropriated our money and we are in a deficit. What about not getting paid by Medicaid??? I don't know the exactly how that all transpired, but this is ridiculous!!!

They CANNOT close the ESH!!!

Sincerely,

Gina M. Spaziano RN